

# **Civilian Initiatives**

## Brown v. Board of Education

The Supreme Court of the United States rules that segregated schools are not equal and are thus are not constitutional.

### **March on Washington**

One of the largest political rallies in U.S. history takes place in August. Over 200,000 people attend seeking freedom and equal opportunities for jobs.

### Civil Rights Act of 1964

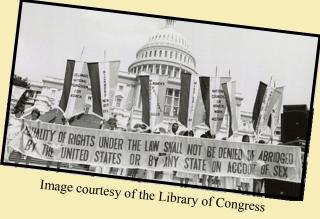
The act outlawed discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

1964

### Assassination of MLK Jr.; Riots

1968

Following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in April 1968, the U.S. experiences major race riots in over 100 cities.



### **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)**

The ERA is passed by both houses of Congress and goes to the states for ratification.

## **Black History Commemoration**

Since 1976, February has been designated as Black History Month.

The Equal Rights Amendment reaches its highest level of support, with 35 of the necessary 38 states approval for ratification. Ultimately, it will not be ratified.

### **Women's History Commemoration**

Under Public Law 97-28, Congress establishes a Women's History Week in March 1981. In 1987 Women's History Week is expanded to Women's History Month.

1981

**1976** 

# **Naval Initiatives**

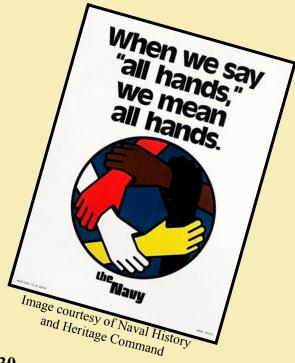
1948 **Executive Order 9981** 

President Harry Truman signs EO 9981, desegregating the U.S. military and promising "equality of treatment and opportunity" without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.

### **Women's Armed Services Integration Act**

The act allows women to serve as permanent members of the military (not just during war); however, it caps the number of women in the services at 2% of the total number and restricts women from shipboard service, except as nurses.

Wesley Brown is the first African American to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy.



Public Law 90-130 1967

This law lifts the 2% restriction on women in the U.S. itary. Increases recruitment efforts for women in the Navy.

**Z-Gram 66** 

Issued by Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Z-Gram 66 recognizes the need for improved race relations in the Navy and outlines committees to enact change.

**Increased Recruitment** 

The U.S. Naval Academy increases recruitment efforts of African Americans with the goal of recruiting between 50 and 75 black midshipmen for the following year.

Racial Riots in the Pacific

In the fall, race riots occur on two aircraft carriers, USS Kitty Hawk and USS Constellation, while deployed to Vietnam.

**Z-Gram 116** 

Issued by Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Zumwalt, Z-Gram 116 authorizes women in all ratings. Shortly after, the Navy enacts a pilot program for women at sea aboard USS Sanctuary.

**Service Academies Open to Women** 

Eighty women enter U.S. Naval Academy in the fall after all U.S. Armed Forces academies are opened to females by a Congressional decision.

**Naval Affirmative Action Plan** 

sea duty unconstitutional.

The Naval Affirmative Action Plan (NAAP) is established in June 1976. NAAP institutionalizes equal opportunity and affirmative action in the Navy.

Owens v. Brown decision Brought forward by Yona Owens in 1976, Owens v. Brown is a class action lawsuit decided by the District Court of Washington, D.C., which declared that barring women from